

Dr. E. E. Gray, who killed Malissa Skinner in a public street at Bloomfield, Ind., was found guilty of murder, the jury placing the punishment at life imprisonment.

Aguañado's peace commissioners, who arrived at Manila, on the 18th, only offered the twice-rejected proposition for an armistice. This Gen. Otis again promptly rejected.

Havana is in a ferment again over the idea that the Washington administration has determined to take the arms of the Cuban troops and retain them in military possession.

Mr. J. R. Garrison, of Washington city, has been appointed auditor for the island of Porto Rico under the war department, and sailed for San Juan, on the 24th, on the transport McPherson.

Admiral Dewey sailed from Manila, on board his flagship, the cruiser Olympia, on the 20th, en route for New York. He was given parting salutes by all the warships in the bay, the British being particularly demonstrative.

Mrs. Martha R. Baker, of Galva, Henry county, Ill., was found dead in a berth of a sleeping car on the Nickel Plate road at Buffalo, N. Y., on the 19th. She was 71 years old, and was on her way to New York. Heart failure was the cause of death.

The steamer Danube, the finest steamer of the fleet in the northern trade, went ashore on Cape Mudge, on the northeastern coast of Vancouver island on the 23d. She was resting easily, and it was expected she would probably float with the tide.

The monument to the late Marie Francois Sadi Carnot, fourth president of the third republic of France, was unveiled at Dijon, France, on the 21st, in the presence of the president, Emile Loubet; Premier Charles Dupuy, Minister of War Camille Krantz and other distinguished personages.

A party of scientists of the department of agriculture, comprising Dr. C. Hart Merriam, biologist, and Messrs. Fisher and Stocks, assistants, to be joined, in a day or two, by Chief Botanist Coville, left Washington, on the 22d, for Alaska, for an investigation of its agricultural resources.

The peace congress assembled at the "House in the Woods," in the suburbs of The Hague, on the 18th, the czar's birthday. M. De Staal, Russian ambassador to Great Britain, was made president of the conference. President McKinley sent a cablegram to the czar congratulating him on the auspicious event.

There was a rumor in Washington, on the 21st, that there had been a hostile meeting at Bluefields between the Nicaraguan gunboat San Jacinto and the United States cruiser Detroit, which is looking after the interests of Americans in that vicinity. The report lacked confirmation so far as official were obtainable.

On instructions from the comptroller of the currency, a tenth dividend of ten per cent, in favor of the creditors of the National Bank of Kansas City, Mo., making in all 100 per cent, on claims proved, amounting to \$807,222, will be paid by Receiver John Perry, of Kansas City. The bank voluntarily closed its doors in 1895.

Lord Curzon, viceroy of India, has issued orders for the forcible disarmament of all the native population in the Peshawar district, and of all the Pathans along both sides of the north-west frontier, owing to the frequency of the murders of the officers and men of the various white English regiments belonging to the Peshawar division.

A copy of the Slangway Alaskan, received in Victoria, B. C., on the 21st, contained the following: "Another disastrous fire has visited Dawson City, this time fairly wiping out the entire business center of the town, creating losses that will aggregate \$1,000,000, with not a dollar's worth of insurance." The fire occurred on April 21. Another account estimates the loss at \$4,000,000.

In deciding the claim of Sarah A. Dukes, against the United States for a vessel taken by the confederate government during the war of the rebellion, the supreme court of the United States, on the 23d, held that the archives of the confederate government constitute competent testimony. These archives showed that the vessel in question was purchased by the confederates.

A report on the plant products of the Philippine islands issued by the agricultural department is authority for the statement that the Philippines, although an agricultural country, do not produce enough food for the consumption of its inhabitants. In order to supply the deficiency, it is the custom to draw upon other rice-producing countries, notably the French colony of Cochinchina.

An eminent member of the peace conference at The Hague says it is simply an act of politeness to the czar and will yield no practical result, simply because it can not. The powers, he asserts, are too dissimilar and watch each other too closely to arrive at any understanding in their programme. His prediction is that there will be a long discussion and then a "first-class burial of the czar's peace proposals."

NEWS IN BRIEF.

Compiled from Various Sources.

PERSONAL AND GENERAL.

The United States auxiliary cruiser Yosemite, carrying Capt. Richard P. Leary, U. S. N., the newly-appointed governor of Guam, and a garrison of marines, has arrived at Gibraltar, en route for that island.

Two hundred war recruits of the Fifth United States infantry left Santiago de Cuba, on the 21st, on the transport McClelland, for home, their time having expired.

The funeral ship Crook, which has been transformed into a regular army transport, sailed from New York, on the 20th, for Savannah, Ga., where she will embark the Second regiment of infantry for transportation to Cienfuegos, Cuba.

Levi Moore, a clerk in the Kansas City (Mo.) city market, shot and perhaps fatally wounded Mrs. Jennie Campbell, Mrs. Ella Landis and Mrs. Anna Meek in a jealous rage on the 21st.

During a thunder storm, on the morning of the 21st, the residence of George Simpson, three miles east of El Dorado, Ill., was struck by lightning, which killed his daughter, Flora, and Oscar Murdock, a hired hand, and seriously injured Jake Trousdale.

The American line steamship Paris, Capt. Watkins, ran on the Manacles rocks, five miles from Falmouth, England, early on the morning of the 21st, and, at last accounts, was still aground. The scene of the wreck of the ship is half a mile from the wreck of the Mohagan. The Paris' 350 passengers were safely landed at Falmouth.

Gen. Gregorio del Pilar says that the Filipino insurgents are ready to surrender as soon as they have assurance that the Americans will carry out their promises, and a guarantee that the leaders will not be put to death. He declares that upon proof of American sincerity the rebels will lay down their arms. He evidently suspects the duplicity practiced by the Spaniards.

A disastrous fire visited Dawson City, April 21, and three-fourths of the town lies in ashes, while hundreds of miners and shopkeepers, gamblers and saloon men are living in tents, sleeping on the snow in blankets, or moving up the creeks to the settlements near the mines. The losses are very heavy.

Aunt Peggy Bailey, the oldest old maid in the United States, died at her home near Huntington, Ind., on the 20th. She was born in Kentucky, and was 112 years old last March. She was a most remarkable woman. She never was sick but once, and that was about eighty years ago.

Kerlin Bros. have struck gas on a farm near Tiffin, O., the yield being over 50,000 feet a day. It is one of the largest strikes in years.

The cruiser Reina Mercedes, the only Spanish ship of any size saved from the battle off Santiago on July 3 last, arrived in Hampton roads, on the 21st, and anchored about a mile off Old Point Comfort, Va.

The first definite steps in the work of replacing the present condemned government printing office, at Washington, with a modern structure, were taken, on the 23d, when the destruction of a score or more of old buildings on the site of the new building was begun. It will be several years before the new building will be completed.

The war department is proceeding on the theory that by the end of July not a volunteer soldier will be left in the Philippines.

The statement of the condition of the treasury issued on the 23d showed: Available cash balance, \$265,233,183; gold reserve, \$229,145,721.

The members of the New York produce exchange voted to close the exchange Monday, May 29, the day before Decoration day.

Gold has been discovered at Portales, N. M., a new town on the line of the Pecos Valley & Northwestern road, 50 miles east of Roswell. The discovery was made in a well that was being dug at a depth of 25 feet.

The report from Manila that a form of government has been proposed to the Filipinos, including a governor general, cabinet and advisory council, is confirmed at the state department, in Washington, where it is said this is the general line of action on which the authorities there and at Manila are proceeding.

The Filipino insurgents are returning to their homes throughout Luzon, and are evidently anxious for peace. Practically no rebel troops are left in the northern provinces. It is said the only insurgent forces in the field are 7,000 men under Gen. Luna and 4,000 under Gen. Pio del Pilar.

In anticipation of the prompt return of the volunteer troops in the Philippines, Gen. Shafter has been instructed to establish a model camp at the Presidio, San Francisco, for the accommodation of about 4,000 volunteers from Manila pending their muster out.

Gov. Roosevelt of New York has expressed his approval of making the welcome of Admiral Dewey a state celebration. He is heartily in favor of a state appropriation during the extra session of the legislature.

An entire family, consisting of William Evans, his wife and child, were killed, on the 22d, on a mountain near Gadsden, Ala. Evans took his family out in a carriage for a drive. The horse became frightened and sped down the mountain, overturning the carriage, dashing the occupants to death.

The United States supreme court adjourned, on the 23d, for the term. During the session the court disposed of 519 cases, leaving 302 cases on the docket. At the close of the last previous term the docket contained 313 cases.

William Martin, a white man, in the employ of the government at Lytle, Ga., beat his wife in a horrible manner on the 23d. He tied a rope around her neck, then led her to his horse's tail, mounted the steed and made off through the wood. The woman was dragged a long distance but not killed. Martin was arrested and narrowly escaped lynching.

The board of naval bureau chiefs has agreed upon the details of the six new cruisers, Denver, Des Moines, Chattanooga, Galveston, Tacoma and Cleveland, which will be the only vessels provided for in the last naval appropriation bill that can be undertaken this year owing to the inability of the department to secure armor for the others.

The Cuban arms question is apparently nearing a complete and rapid settlement. The payment and dispersal of half of the armed bands that have been voluntarily or involuntarily quartered on the country, was slated to begin, according to the present programme, on the 27th.

LATE NEWS ITEMS.

At the session of the National Slavonic society, held in Chicago on the 23d, the president made his general report, in which he congratulated the society on its steady growth, and said that all the lodges composing the organization were in good standing. The secretary reported that the organization now had 15,000 members and the membership was rapidly increasing.

Some of the late Cuban insurgents aver that they will not give up their arms; but Gov. Gen. Brooke has no present intention of making a house-to-house search in order to seize them. If the Cuban soldiers are not willing to bring in their arms and thereby get the \$75 allotted to each man as his share of the \$7,500,000, they will be allowed to retain them.

In the United States circuit court at Topeka, on the 23d, Judge Hook issued an order for the sale of the Leavenworth, Topeka & Southern railroad. This is the only railroad in Kansas remaining in the hands of a receiver. The order was made in the suit brought by the American Loan and Trust Co.

The British embassy in Washington has been informed of the appointment of William Maxmiller as second secretary of the embassy. He is a son of the well-known author and scientist, Prof. Maxmiller; is an Eton and Oxford man, with a diplomatic experience at Constantinople and The Hague.

The main feature of the cabinet meeting, on the 23d, was the reading of a detailed report from Gen. Otis regarding the military operations in the Philippines. The report carried the operations up to April, and is considered satisfactory. It was decided to make it public.

Washington's peace jubilee was inaugurated at sunrise, on the 23d, by a national salute of 13 guns from the Dolphin, anchored off the navy yard, and by the chiming of bells and sound of steam whistles all over the city.

Sir Charles Ross, representing an American syndicate, has offered to purchase the municipal electric light plants of Shanghai, on condition that the purchaser is given the right to establish tramways in that city.

The London Daily Telegraph announced, on the 21st, the discontinuance of its Sunday edition. No comment accompanied the announcement. The steamship St. Louis, sailing for Europe on the 23d, took out 433,000 ounces of silver.

CURRENT NEWS NOTES.

Rural free delivery will be established at Dixon, Ill., June 1.

C. D. Wolff is dangerously ill at his home in Clayton, Mo., with acute indigestion.

The facilities of the United States mints for turning out gold coin are to be increased.

Joseph Marshall attempted suicide, at St. Louis, by leaping from a ferryboat into the river.

Bill Watson and three members of his outlaw gang were captured, Friday, in Oklahoma.

Several business men of Perry, Okla., have been arrested on the charge of violating the war stamp tax act.

J. W. Prunett, one of the pioneers of Marion county, Ill., died at his home, Friday, on his eighty-third birthday.

President McKinley has received replies to his messages of congratulation from Czar Nicholas and Gen. Otis.

Failures for the week have been 17 in the United States, against 250 last year, and 17 in Canada, against 29 last year.

Four companies of the Sixteenth regulars, now stationed at Jefferson barracks, St. Louis, expect soon to leave for Manila.

The chairmanship of the arbitration section of the Peace conference, at The Hague, has been offered to and accepted by Sir Julian Pauncefote.

The St. Louis Presbyterians are planning to have the assemblies of the church south meet there simultaneously with the church north in 1903.

The stonecutters on the courthouse, at Charleston, Ill., about 40 in number, went out on a strike, Friday. Their grievance was working overtime.

The Nicaraguan canal commissioners have settled their differences, and shortly will submit their report on the cost and feasibility of the undertaking.

England has protested against the action of the United States in sending more troops to Alaska. England asks for arbitration of the boundary dispute.

The exports of merchandise from the United States to China in the fiscal year about to end will be larger than those of any preceding year in our history.

Through a decision of the supreme court of Venezuela, new iron fields, supposed to be of inexhaustible richness, have been opened to an American syndicate.

MISSOURI STATE NEWS.

Recent Deaths.

Mrs. Eliza Boring, aged 95, at Lamar. She was born in Kentucky, but had lived in Missouri since childhood. Bennett Appleby, prominent at De Witt.

Mrs. M. Dugny, aged 80 years, at Poplar Bluff.

Mrs. Carrie Musser, aged 48, at Odesa, of dropsy, after a short illness.

Anderson Johns, at his home, six miles west of Salem. He was 79, and a prospective farmer.

Gen. C. D. Wolff, one of the leading citizens of St. Louis county, at his home in Clayton. He made a good record in the civil war on the Union side.

The St. Clair Judges.

The St. Clair county judges, taking advantage of the departure of United States marshals, came in from the brush and held a meeting at the courthouse in Osceola at night. The meeting was held for the purpose of affirming the levy for the county expenses recently made by the court in the brush. There had been some question as to its validity. This meeting removes all doubts. The judges were heavily armed with Winchester and revolvers.

The Strain Was Too Great.

When Peter Kindred, condemned to death for the murder of Andrew Alley in Mercer county, was informed that the governor had granted him a respite until June 7 he broke down under the sudden relaxation of the intense strain and became a maniac. Either that, or he is doing clever acting.

Burglars Use Dynamite.

The depot of the Kansas City, Fort Scott & Memphis railway at Cedar rap, Wright county, was entered by burglars, the safe blown to atoms and the entire east half of the depot building destroyed. The burglars secured all the money in the depot. They used dynamite.

Confederate Decoration Day.

Confederate decoration day was observed at Springfield. The weather was perfect, and a great mass of people gathered at the cemetery to take part in decorating the graves. Chief Justice James B. Gantt, of the supreme court, delivered the principal address.

John Brown's Sister.

Mrs. Martha Brown Davis, of St. John's, Mich., arrived at Nevada, the other day, on a visit to Mr. and Mrs. R. N. Bailey. Mrs. Davis is a sister of John Brown, of Harper's Ferry fame. She is the last surviving member of the family.

Washing Away Farms.

The river has been cutting very badly on the Saline county side below Miami. It is a great pity that something can not be done to save the valuable farms which are surely being washed away.

Missouri Cotton.

Cotton is coming up well in New Madrid county, and some has been worked, but in portions of Pemiscott and Butler counties the stand is reported poor.

All For Love.

Edith McKee, aged 16, daughter of John McKee, a farmer ten miles north of Maryville, committed suicide by shooting through the head. Her parents objected to her lover.

The Coming Corn Crop.

In most of the northwestern and some of the northeastern counties, corn planting has progressed well. Much of the corn in the northwestern counties is being listed.

Bride 80, Groom 75.

M. T. Heley, aged 75, was married to Mrs. Sarah E. Smith, aged 80 at Sedalia. The marriage took place at the bride's home. The bridegroom was a widower of six weeks.

By Fear of a Storm.

At Springfield, Thomas Aiken, an ex-Union soldier, aged 63, became alarmed at the prospects of a storm and killed himself with a pistol.

Want the Old One Preserved.

Palmyra is figuring on a new courthouse, but many of the citizens dislike to have the old one demolished because of its value as a historical relic.

Ice Plant Burned.

The ice manufacturing plant and cold storage rooms of F. A. Elsner, at Clinton, were destroyed by fire. Elsner says the plant cost \$80,000.

Aged Farmer Kills Himself.

Fredrick Rushner, aged 68, a farmer, committed suicide near Neosho, by hanging. He was despondent over the death of his wife.

Fatal as Bahamian Plague.

Spinal meningitis is declared by St. Louis physicians to be as fatal as the bubonic plague. No specific cure has been discovered.

Shot Himself in the Head.

Edward Clark, a butcher at Hopkings, committed suicide by shooting in the head.

Five Generations Represented.

No less than five generations were represented at a family reunion held at the home of J. E. Hinman, at Sedalia, recently.

Farmer Killed by Lightning.

Charles Johnson, a farmer five miles south of Carrollton, was struck by lightning, the other afternoon, and instantly killed.

Tears Soon Shed.

Mrs. Estelle Geiger, of St. Joseph, who had been a widow since April 21, was married on May 16. She is said to be handsome.

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THE MISSOURI LEGISLATURE.

Proceedings of the Fortieth General Assembly.

JEFFERSON CITY, May 17.—Gov. Stephens has signed the state department bill. He returned the bill to the house, yesterday, with a message merely stating that he had approved it. The bill, which will become a law at the end of 90 days after final adjournment. It is expected that before that time the department stores will take up the matter into court on the question of constitutionality.

Citing to the fact that the present law relating to grave-robbing have proved ineffective, the senate passed a bill which has been recommended by the revision committee. It provides heavy fines and imprisonment for the offense.

Senator Davidson's wine-room bill was passed in the house. It was amended, however, by striking out the word "disreputable" before the word "wine room."

JEFFERSON CITY, May 18.—Yesterday the Bohart bill, distributing the foreign insurance tax money now in the state treasury, amounting to \$23,000, among the various counties of the state and cities of St. Louis, was signed by Gov. Stephens. The house passed the senate revised bill relating to peddlers and their various articles, patent rights, patent medicines, lightning rods, merchandise, except pianos, books, sewing machines, organs, charts, maps and stationery and agricultural or horticultural products shall be licensed as peddlers.

The senate passed the Drabell bill directing the state treasurer to refund all franchise fees or taxes paid, in accordance with the provisions of the act of 1885, as amended by the act of 1897, providing for the endowment of the state university and for the establishment and endowment of free scholarships in every county. The sum of \$43,361.75 is appropriated out of the state treasury, chargeable to this fund.

Senate revised bill 21, introduced by Senator Dowell, by request of the revision committee, relating to levees, was passed by the senate. A new section is incorporated in the chapter providing that whenever the right of way shall be obtained over not more than one mile of any railroad right of way in any one place by voluntary relinquishment of the same or by condemnation proceedings, it shall be the duty of the railway company or person owning the property to construct its road bed or embankment as high as the levee without opening between the points connecting the levee to the railroad track or embankment, and any person or corporation failing to so construct its embankment after the building of an adjacent levee, person or corporation shall be liable in damages for all the damage sustained by the levee district, or any person by reason of its failure to so construct its embankment.

JEFFERSON CITY, May 18.—The street railway consolidation bill passed the house yesterday afternoon by a vote of 41 to 25, after scenes of excitement and confusion. The emergency clause was used, adopted by a vote of 39 to 25. The bill now goes to the governor. A sensational session was precipitated by the statement of Mr. Jenkins, of Jasper, that he had been offered \$100 for his vote on the street railway bill.

After a deadlock lasting for a week over the act declaratory of revision the house voted yesterday to adopt the revision committee report on the militia item. The emergency clause was used, adopted by a vote of 39 to 25. The bill now goes to the governor. A sensational session was precipitated by the statement of Mr. Jenkins, of Jasper, that he had been offered \$100 for his vote on the street railway bill.

JEFFERSON CITY, May 20.—The house yesterday refused to adopt the conference committee report on the appropriation bill carrying the militia item. The report recommended that the national guard be allowed \$5000 for the two years. This the house would not agree to, and another conference committee was appointed. This is the fourth conference committee report on this bill that the house has refused to adopt.

The house slaughtered the senate revised bill treating of insurance laws. The bill was indefinitely postponed by a vote of 41 to 25. The bill contained a provision that the legislature of this action, this particular chapter will not be revised, and the chapter will remain as it stands. The bill contained, among other new matter, a measure of which Senator Morton was the author, and which the house indefinitely postponed a few days ago. This measure required annual life insurance companies to file annual statements of salaries paid to officers and other employees. When the house learned that this measure had been introduced into the revised bill it fell on the latter measure and sent it to the morgue in a hurry. Mr. Pope and a few others pleaded for the bill, but in vain.

The house reconsidered and passed the bill to establish a colony for the feeble-minded, and appropriating \$30,000 for the purpose.

JEFFERSON CITY, May 22.—Gov. Stephens vetoed the Farris anti-schoolbook trust bill, and also the measure to prevent justices of the peace from retaining notary fees. The national guard appropriation was increased to \$20,000. The Nesbitt election bill, applying to St. Louis, was passed, amid much excitement.

JEFFERSON CITY, May 23.—The legislature adjourned sine die yesterday. During the day Gov. Stephens sent a message of about 2,000 words to the assembly, pointing out the necessity for franchise legislation. In the house no action was paid to it, while in the senate it was not even read.

Before the final adjournment there were the usual presentations to the officers of both houses. In the senate Secretary Charles Roach was the recipient of a very handsome sterling silver set of pearl-handled knives, forks and spoons, with a new-fangled knife, which he will put to the proper purpose when he determines what that may be.

First of all Senator Farris, on behalf of the senate, presented to the president, Leon Gov. Bolte, a watch and chain. Senator McIntire, president pro tem, on behalf of the senate, was presented with a gold chain and Knights Templar charm. Senator Vandiver was next with a crayon portrait of President Bolte, which the president accepted on behalf of Mrs. Bolte. Miss Bertha Franklin, the senate stenographer, drew the next prize. It was a diamond-studded watch, presented for the senate by Mr. Walker.

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There were several protests on the main floor in which a number of bills were passed, and some strong language was used, but the ugly moods disappeared after adjournment.

ACROSS THE SEAS.

St. Petersburg is the unhealthiest capital in Europe.

The latest musical phenomenon in Paris is a monkey that plays the violin. Shanghai, which was not opened to foreign trade till 1842, has now a population of about 7,000 Europeans and Americans.

A gold cross of honor has been given to a Berlin cook, Johanna Mock, by Empress Augusta for 55 years' faithful service in one family. She was passed on from mother to daughter.

QUEEN VICTORIA'S BIRTHDAY.

Four Generations of Descendants Make and Enjoy Happy Scenes at Windsor Castle.

London, May 24.—The gathering of the royal family at Windsor castle today to celebrate the eightieth birthday of Queen Victoria, will be the largest, with the exception of the jubilee gathering, that has assembled there in many years. Not only will four generations in succession be present, but there will be a great gathering of children and grandchildren of her majesty.

A Happy Augury.

The return of sunshine yesterday is a happy augury of the success of the celebration. The royal borough is already in gala dress; the country itself is brilliant with lilac, chestnut and laburnum blooms; while the grey old castle is gay with the royal standard and British flags. Everything points to the success of a gorgeous pageant of military knights, Scots guards, choral societies and holiday makers.

Despite the bustle of the preparations at the castle, the queen rested quietly yesterday.

The Programme of Festivities.

The programme will open with a serenade, a Madrigal, sung by the choral societies in the quadrangle of the castle at ten o'clock this morning. This will be followed by the presentation of addresses and rose buckets by the royal warrant holders, a parade of the Second regiment of Scots guards, the firing of a feu de joie, a thanksgiving service in St. George's chapel, and a performance of "Lohengrin" in the evening in the Waterloo chamber of the castle, in which the entire Covent Garden company will appear.

Services in London.

Although the official celebration in London will not occur until June 3, there will be thanksgiving services in St. Paul's cathedral and Westminster abbey, as well as in many other large churches, and reviews at all the military barracks.

Will Use the Electrophone.

During the day the queen, for the first time, will use the electrophone to hear the national anthem sung in various parts of the kingdom.

QUEEN'S EIGHTIETH ANNIVERSARY.

To be Celebrated To-Night by the British Schools and Universities Club of New York.

New York, May 24.—The fourth annual dinner of the British Schools and Universities' club will be held to-night at the Brexort house, and Queen Victoria's birthday will then be celebrated by the Britishers of this and other kindred societies in New York. Admiral Sampson will be the guest of honor. The United States navy will also be represented by Captains Chadwick and Taylor, and Flag Secretary Bennett. Former United States minister to Siam, John Barrett, who has just returned from the east, via England, will speak on "Great Britain and the United States; Friendly Rivals in the Far East."

The queen's birthday dinner of this club, while the war with Spain was in progress, was the occasion of remarkable evidences of Anglo-American friendliness; Whitelaw Reid, Bishop Potter, and others on that occasion voicing sentiments which received the hearty acclaim of the English press. The club is composed of residents of this city who attended the British universities and the old established British schools, such as Eton, Harrow, etc., and one of its chief aims is to foster the friendly feeling between the two countries.

The Day Celebrated in Havana.

Havana, May 24.—The eightieth birthday of Queen Victoria will be celebrated by a banquet given by the British consul and the principal British residents and British visitors to Havana. Among the guests of American nationality will be Gov. Gen. Brooke and Generals Lee, Chaffee, Ludlow and Humphreys, and many other Americans of prominence, and Senor Perfecto Lacoste, mayor of Havana, and Senor Federico Mora, the supreme court fiscal.

A VERY PESSIMISTIC VIEW.

A Cornish Diver Who Does Not Believe the American Liner Paris Can be Saved.

Falmouth, May 24.—A leading Cornish diver, who returned here last night, from the Paris takes a very pessimistic view of the prospects of saving the liner. To the press correspondent he said:

"I do not anticipate that the Paris will ever be floated. She is pierced by rocks amidships, her foreholds are badly damaged, the bulkheads are practically useless, and even if she were got off the rocks, I believe she would sink."

"In my opinion the only remedy is a false bottom, which it would take a month to complete, and I believe that even moderately rough weather in the meantime would break up the ship."

Everything is in readiness for today's effort to refloat the vessel, if the weather continues favorable.